

REMARKS

Claims 2 and 59-68 were pending in this application before entry of the present amendment.

Claims 2, 64 and 65 have been cancelled without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the subject matter of the cancelled claims in one or more related applications. Claims 59-61, 63, 66, and 68 have been amended to delete non-elected subject matter. Claim 61 has been further amended to recite that the protein *consists* of rather than *comprises* the recited amino acids sequences.

New claim 69 has been added. Support for new claim 69 can be found in the specification as originally filed, *e.g.*, at page 4, line 25.

No new matter has been introduced. After entry of the present amendment, claims 59-63 and 66-69 will be pending in the present application.

Election/Restriction

It is stated in the Office Action dated August 20, 2008 that claims 63-68 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed. It is noted that claims 64-65 have been canceled. Claims 63 and 66-68, however, are directed to SEQ ID NO:1, which has been elected in Applicants Response to the Restriction Requirement, which was filed on September 24, 2007. Accordingly, claims 63 and 66-68 are drawn to elected subject matter and are under consideration.

Claim Objections

Claims 59-61 have been amended to identify the elected sequence as SEQ ID NO.: 1 as requested by the Examiner. Claims 59-61, 63, 66 and 68 have been amended to delete non-elected subject matter. Accordingly, the objections to the claims should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the above remarks and amendments be entered and made of record in the present application file.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 18, 2008

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